

## THE NEW PLAYS

"Silks and Satins"  
In Vaudeville Style

By CHARLES DARNTON

LIKE the wandering minstrel "Silks and Satins," displayed by William Rock at Cohan's Theatre last night, is a thing of shreds and patches, with some bright patches and others not exactly dazzling.

This so-called revue proved to be a fairly good variety show, for aside from two or three rather elaborate numbers bringing to view an extravagantly and effectively dressed chorus of girls, "Silks and Satins" was in vaudeville style. There certainly was no lack of variety, and the rapid changes left nothing to be desired in the way of speed.

In singing "The Shadow Every-thing I've Got," Alben Stanley might have included the shimmy, for it was frequently in evidence during the course of the jassy performance. Miss Stanley, tall and good-natured, carried her songs with an easy swing and a suggestion of Charlie Vance. Rudy Wiedorst wooed her successfully with his saxophone and at the same time won the audience. West Avery and Dennis O'Neil were genuinely amusing as black-face comedians, especially when they cut a wide swath in an indescribably funny dance. Comic originality was also displayed by William Demarest, who left his "collo while Estelle Collette tiddled and with grim determination attempted an acrobatic stunt that left him flat on his back. Thomas Dugan got considerable fun out of a collapsible automobile. Irene and Bernice Hart, of the Van and Sonenick school of music, were not without humor in their plaintive song "I Want to Be Somebody's B-a-a-a-by." A Chinese soprano, Ju Suon Tai, put a surprising amount of pep into a jazz number, but stranger still was her singing of "Annie Laurie." Mr. Rock indulged in recitations as an old man and danced discreetly with gorgeous looking girls.

## SLUMP IN PASSPORTS.

Decrease of One-Third Follows Raising of Rate to \$10.

Since the cost of passports from the United States was increased from \$2 to \$10, July 1, applications at the New York agency and throughout the country have fallen off more than one-third. An average of 240 a day at the New York agency for the first six months of this year has dropped to 160.

The slump is due also to the fact that all big steamships are refusing to book return passage for first and second cabin passengers within six months. One-third of the passports from the United States are issued through the New York agency.

15-YEAR-OLD X-RAY  
BURNS KILL DOCTORDr. T. J. Buchanan Lost Fingers  
and Hand as Result of  
Experiments.

It was learned yesterday that the death of Dr. Thomas Jefferson Buchanan, at his home, Toms River, N. J., last Saturday, was the result of X-ray burns he received fifteen years ago while experimenting in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, of which he was at the time first physician.

The breaking down of tissue, which followed the burns, first affected the fingers of his right hand, some of which were amputated before it became necessary recently to remove the hand. The burns had been scattered over his body, however, and a few months ago became malignant under his right arm and spread across his chest.

Dr. Buchanan was graduated from Jefferson College in 1885, and devoted his entire time to work in Jefferson Hospital until five years ago, when he resigned and went to Toms River. There he established the Toms River Hospital, developing it into one of the foremost in that section of New Jersey. During that time he retained his affiliation with the Jefferson Hospital as a member of the neurological staff.

Dr. Buchanan was a member of the Medical Society of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Medical Society, the Philadelphia Board of Education and the Toms River Chamber of Commerce. He was chief medical examiner of the Ocean County Draft Board during the war.

N. Y. CENTRAL LOSES  
2-CENT FARE CASEU. S. Judge Refuses Injunction  
Restraining Public Service Board  
of This State.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., July 16.—Associate Federal Judge Frank Cooper has refused to grant a temporary injunction to the New York Central Railroad to restrain the Public Service Commission from enforcing the order for a 2-cent fare between Albany and Buffalo after Sept. 1.

The petition had been under advisement for two days, and Judge Cooper announced with his decision that he was endeavoring to arrange a conference of three Federal Judges, one from the Circuit Court of Appeals or United States Supreme Court, to take up the matter of granting a permanent injunction.

The company probably will carry the case to the United States Supreme Court.

## ALBERT CABLES LEGION.

King Albert of Belgium has sent the following message to the editor of the American Legion Weekly:

"On the eve of the anniversary of the glorious American victory at Chateau-Thierry it is a great pleasure for me to send to the American Legion Weekly a token of the high admiration this heroic stand kindled in my heart and to renew tribute of our everlasting gratitude for the heroes who fell on the 15th of July, 1918, for the common cause."

Answers to Rent Queries;  
New Laws Explained for  
Evening World Readers

The Evening World has obtained the services of a lawyer with long experience in landlord and tenant cases to answer questions arising under the new laws against rent profiteering. If you are having any difficulty with your landlord, or if you think your rental is being increased unreasonably, state your case briefly to the Rent Editor of The Evening World and an answer will be printed in this column.

A. R.—On Feb. 25, 1920, I bought a house and gave the tenants until May 1 to move out, because I wanted the place for my wife and ten children. They went into court and got a stay of four months before I could get up to the Judge to tell my side of it. What can I do about this?

Answer: Go into court without further delay and state your case to the Judge who made the order. The order is not final until you get a ruling in your favor. A landlord is always entitled to his property when he wants it.

BRONX RESIDENT—I have four rooms in my apartment. The rent was raised from \$30 to \$40 in October, 1919. I have just been advised the rent will be raised to \$50 in October, 1920. Is there any advantage in signing a lease, and how long does the 25 per cent. increase remain without being raised? The landlord wants me to sign a lease under this new rent. Do you think the increase is fair?

Answer: The increase is presumed to be fair. If you wish to defeat it, you must prove your landlord's expenses do not justify him in asking that much. It is an advantage to have a lease these days—get one for as long as you can. Court rulings in rent increases hold until the following October.

A. E.—In April, 1919, I paid \$40 a month and in May of the same year was increased \$5; in September \$5 more. I have received no more increases, but I am informed that I am to be raised 25 per cent. I would like to know whether the law specifies a 25 per cent. increase each year for any increase whatever. It merely presumes what increases shall be fair and what shall be unfair. If the increase is 25 per cent. or below it will be up to you to prove it is unfair; if above this it will be up to the landlord to prove it is fair. If your landlord raises you 25 per cent. in September the law will presume him to be right.

A. S.—The landlord made an unsuccessful attempt to raise the rent recently and he has suddenly discovered (after three years) that my taking in sewing has a deteriorating effect on the property. He is merely trying to get us out because we beat his attempt at gouging. Is this sufficient for eviction?

Answer: The question raised is whether you are an undesirable tenant. He will have to prove you are undesirable; he must prove you are an annoyance to other tenants and that your business is actually an injury to the property. It is very doubtful if he can do it. If he has permitted you to do business this long without complaint.

G. S., Brooklyn—I have been evicted and have a chance to get into a flat at

than a year backward from next October. There is nothing in the law which says any special time shall be given a tenant to say whether or not to sign a lease.

E. B. A.—In April, 1919, I was raised to \$28; in August to \$32 and in April, 1920 to \$36. Can my landlord raise me again before April 1, 1921? The landlord is having electric lights installed and on the strength of that I believe he will ask me for more money. I have no lease.

Answer—The landlord has already raised you a little over the 25 per cent. which is presumed to be fair. However he might be allowed something for the electric lights. You have the privilege of refusing a further increase and allowing the court to settle the case.

MIRIAM—Notice has been sent to thirty-five tenants to vacate on Oct. 1 as the owner claims he has plans filed to remodel the house from five and six-room apartments into two and three-room furnished apartments. What rights have we in this case as it is impossible for thirty-five families to find accommodations in this neighborhood? The landlord has already rented some furnished apartments at profiteering rates.

Answer—If the remodeling will increase the housing accommodations

of the building he can put all tenants out while the work is going on. But if he is remodeling only to squeeze more money from tenants the law will not permit him to do so. It would be wise for you to take the matter to court because the facts indicate you have an excellent chance of winning.

H. L.—I have just been notified my rent will be \$33 starting July 1. Last July I was paying \$31; in October I was raised to \$25 and now to \$33. This is an increase of \$10 in one year. The walls and ceilings are broken and yet the landlord has done no repairs in six years. What can we do in this case?

Answer—Offer your landlord \$4 more. That will be a little more than the 25 per cent. which is presumed to be just. If he insists upon the full increase of \$8 compel him to show in court he is justified in asking it. If the lack of repairs is so great that it is uncomfortable to live in the apartment you can compel the landlord to make them under pain of arrest.

W. A. J.—On April 1, 1919, I was paying \$14 a month for my apartment and on May 1 of the same year I was raised to \$20; on March 1, 1920, I was raised to \$23. Now the landlord has sent me a notice saying my rent will be raised to \$25 on July 1.

Answer—In the absence of any specified time, such rentals as the court sets run for a year except where new evidence is brought to light. You need have little fear of dispossession.

I. B.—I have received a notice terminating my occupancy of this apartment upon expiration of my lease, Oct. 1, 1920. I can't get rooms elsewhere. "I might be able to get another lease at 25 per cent. increase. If I do so am I entitled to repairs which are absolutely necessary and which have not been made in five years?"

Answer—If you are permitted to renew the lease you can demand repairs which are absolutely necessary. The new rent laws make it a misdemeanor for landlords to neglect apartments until they are uncomfortable for tenants.

G. P.—Two months ago my landlord asked an increase in rent which I deemed too large. I applied to the Mayor's Committee and they advised me to pay him 25 per cent., which would make my rent \$36. I offered that amount, but he refused it saying he wanted \$44. The landlord brought the case to court and said he wanted \$40. How long does this rent hold for? The owner is threatening me with a dispossession.

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